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08550 (US). **COOPER, Jeffrey, Allen** [US/US]; 11 Toth Lane, Rocky Hill, New Jersey 08553 (US).

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(74) Agents: **TRIPOLI, Joseph, S. et al.**; c/o THOMSON Licensing Inc., Two Independence Way, Suite 200, Princeton, New Jersey 08540 (US).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **THOMSON LICENSING S.A.** [FR/FR]; 46 Quai A. Le Gallo, F-92100 Boulogne-Billancourt (FR).

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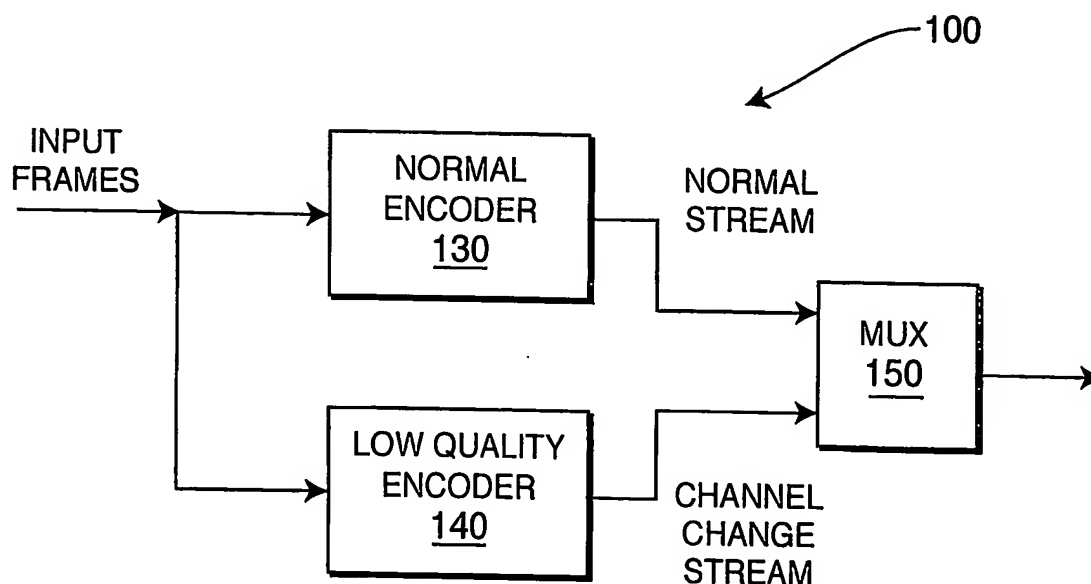
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BOYCE, Jill, MacDonald** [US/US]; 3 Brandywine Court, Manalapan, New Jersey 07726 (US). **TOURAPIS, Alexandros, Michael** [GR/US]; 20212 Heather Drive, West Windsor, New Jersey

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(54) Title: ENCODING METHOD AND APPARATUS ENABLING FAST CHANNEL CHANGE OF COMPRESSED VIDEO



(57) Abstract: A video encoder (100, 300, 500) and corresponding method (800) are described for enabling fast channel change of compressed video, where a video encoder (100, 300, 500) for receiving input pictures and providing compressed stream data includes a normal encoding portion (130, 330, 530) for receiving input pictures and providing normal stream data, a lower-quality encoding portion (140, 340, 540) for receiving input pictures and providing channel change stream data, and a multiplexor (150, 350, 550) in signal communication with each of the normal and lower-quality portions for receiving and combining the normal and channel change data streams.

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